



ADDENDUM TO OBJECTIVE 3 ASSESSMENT

STRENGTHENING SOMALI GOVERNANCE

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ACRONYMS

AMISON	African Union Mission in Somalia
ASOW	Activity Scope of Work
AU	African Union
CDCS	Country Development Cooperation Strategy
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DFID	Department For International Development
FGS	Federal Government of Somalia
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IGAD	Inter Governmental Authority on Development
IJA	Interim Juba Administration
INGO	International Non Governmental Organization
IRDO	Iman Relief and Development Organization
JCSO	Jubbaland Civil Society Organisation
Kisima	Kisima Peace and Development Organisation
LJYO	Lower Jubba Youth Union
MP	Member of Parliament
NDI	National Democratic Institute
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
PMP	Project Monitoring Plan
PSG	Peace and Security Goal (in the Somalia Compact)
PWD	Persons with Disabilities
SEDHURO	Socio-Economic Development and Human Rights Organization
SGJ	Solidarity Group of Jubaland
SNA	Somalia National Army
SOW	Scope of Work
SSF	Somalia Stability Fund
SSG	Strengthening Somali Governance Project
SWSO	Somali Women's Solidarity Organisation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Strengthening Somali Governance (SSG) Project is designed to support the development of more effective and accountable Somali government institutions, by supporting both the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) as well as state and local administrations in their efforts to meet the New Deal Framework and their commitments to develop sound government institutions. SSG activities includes support for developing the capacity of governance institutions (primarily their respective parliaments and civil society institutions) in Somaliland, Puntland, and Jubaland, as well as other entities that emerge as legitimate government structures that are ready for, and in need of, assistance. The activities are designed to improve the reach of government, systematize opportunities for representation and inclusion of citizen interests in the political process, increase the legitimacy of government institutions and representative bodies, and support women's empowerment and leadership. SSG focuses on three overarching objectives, which are designed to:

- 1) Improve the legislative, representative, and oversight functions of Somalia's federal and state (including Somaliland, Puntland and Jubaland) deliberative bodies;
- 2) Improve the ability of targeted government institutions to carry out essential functions; and
- 3) Increase citizen awareness of engagement in government decision-making.

Addendum to the Objective Three Assessment

This assessment report of Objective 3 of SSG, focuses on the the civil society organizations (CSOs) working in Jubaland. The goal is to capture the needs and current capacity of eight chosen CSOs and analyze how SSG can potentially support these.

Structure and Purpose of the Report

Section II of this report outline a brief background to the situation in Jubaland.

Section III outlines how the assessment was conducted and provides brief information regarding with whom the assessment team met.

Section IV covers civil society organizations in Jubaland, provide a general overview of the eight CSOs the assessment team met with in Kismayo as well as an overview to the IJA institutions capacity to work with CSOs. This section then provide a mapping of suggested support based on activities already suggested in the Objective 3 Assessment Report covering Somalia, Somaliland, and Puntland.

II. INTRODUCTION

Jubaland is one of the most war-ravaged regions in Somalia and has more or less seen continuous fighting since the civil war broke out in 1991. One of the reasons is the importance of control of Kismayo, which is one of the major port cities in Somalia, and the access it provides to the fertile areas in the Lower Jubba region.

Kismayo was one of Al-Shabaab's strongholds before they were ousted out by the Kenya Defence Forces and the Ras Kombaani group in September 2012. Since then, a regional administration has been set up, called the Interim Jubaland Administration (IJA), with its base in Kismayo, and recently the IJA Regional Assembly was selected

The limited resources for the IJA, and how these resources are being used has an impact on the civil society. CSOs, often supported by international donors, have often had to take on service delivery when it comes to education, health, and other priority areas. The assessment team acknowledges that without an active civil society in Jubaland, the situation for many communities would be far worse.

III. METHODOLOGY

This additional assessment for the SSG Objective 3 was carried out in July 2015. The aim was to identify key priorities for assistance to civil society organizations (CSOs) in Jubaland. The assessment team of Team Leader Erik Landemalm and Legislative Strengthening Expert Anab Nur conducted a desk study of relevant material related to civil society and media. In gathering evidence on the current media landscape with a focus on access to information, civic awareness, and the role of media in governance, the team focused on media reports by organizations such as BBC Media Action and Internews,

After reading through the information, meetings were planned and conducted with representatives of eight CSOs operating in Jubaland. The list of in-person meetings conducted can be found in Annex A.

Interviews took a more informal approach, where the assessment team used open questions and asked the interviewee to talk about their respective organization and provide as much information as possible on the different topics that were presented by the assessment team.

IV. CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN JUBALAND

A. Overview

The assessment team focused its efforts primarily on meeting with a broad range of civil society organizations. Unfortunately, due to time constraints and some security concerns, the assessment team unfortunately did not get the chance to meet with any of the media houses.

Civil Society Organizations

Centre for Conflict Transformation and Social Development

Formed in 2004 in Kismayo as a result of the so-called Embagati Conference. The purpose was to strengthen the peace agreement on national reconciliation and to work on local governance at a local level. The Centre is working on local reconciliation, peace building, and capacity building for local authorities and civil society on peace building. The Centre also provides capacity building for district administrations on leadership, management, and reconciliation.

The Centre is part of three activities of the constitutional drafting process in Jubaland, namely:

- Collecting ideas from the communities, in relation to the constitution
- Awareness raising campaigns
- Dissemination of information by using radio and have three-four radio programs available to assist

When it comes to outreach, the Centre delivers at different levels:

- The Centre facilitates big meetings at village and district level to disseminate information. They invite all sections of community and address issues that the communities are most interested, in the form of conflict management. This has proven to not just solve existing problems, but also to prevent upcoming problems.
- At the district and regional authority level, hold meetings with them and provide the information that was collected from the local meetings and provide consultations and ideas on how to deal with the situations. The Centre bridges the gap between the citizens and their local administration.

Iman Relief and Development Organization (IRDO)

IRDO has its main office in Kismayo, which was opened in 2012 when Al Shabaab was forced out of Kismayo. Now, IRDO has grown and have offices in Nairobi, Mogadishu, Adado (Him and Heeb), Hosingo (Jubaland), and Ras Kamboni (Jubaland). There is also a satellite office in Marka for activities in Lower Shabelle.

The activities that IRDO implements include:

- Livelihood project in Kismayo
- Wheat feeding program
- Peace building program, a nine-month program on the border between Kenya and Somalia. This program has led to local authorities, which in the past used to make their

own decisions without consulting the citizens, now providing consultations because they understand the importance of the role of the community.

- Trauma healing program
- Four-month program doing civic education on human rights, good governance, and the provisional constitution. IRDO trained the local community and local administration.

All of IRDO's programs involve cooperation with the regional government on different levels.

IRDO is actively involved in promoting good governance, human rights, and civic education and has good experience in dispute resolutions by having access to different parts of the community, including the important business community. As a result of training 27 members of the administration and 690 citizens in five different districts, there have been elections of district commissioners, a positive development in which IRDO played a direct part.

Jubbaland Civil Society Organisation (JCSO)

This is a fairly new organization that was started in August 2014, but just recently registered with two ministries in Jubaland.

Thus far, JCSO has set up the organization and conducting meetings with local organizations aiming to create relationships between organizations and possibly start a network. Most CSOs are now on board, according to the interviewees. In the past, some of the different CSOs in Jubaland did not work together and did not want to divulge their activities or funding sources. The assessment team could not find out the reason for this, but assumes it was motivated by fear of potential competition from other CSOs to take over existing CSOs funding. JCSO assured the different CSOs that everyone can still do their own thing and does not need to tell anyone about their funding and that JCSOs efforts were simply to bring civil society together as an umbrella. This still remains a challenge however, as does funding for the umbrella.

Kisima Peace and Development Organisation (Kisima)

Kisima was formed in 1998 and has been operating for the last 17 years with a focus on human rights and development. The CSO work with the communities and one of the activities is to support its own youth soccer team. The organization is also established outside of Jubaland, in places like Puntland, Australia, Sweden, Kenya, and the United States. UN OCHA has previously done a capacity test and Kisima was one of few CSOs that passed. Kisima works closely with the government on district level since it wants to work in the health and justice sector, for example a youth employment initiative where Kisima and the government provides vocational training (including tailoring, computing and carpentry) to youth to enable them to get jobs. By creating opportunities for the youth population, it keeps them from joining Al Shabaab.

Kisima also supports children under 17 from three primary schools based in Kismayo and three mobile schools, by providing them with an accelerated learning program that allow the participating children to catch up on their education. African Education Trust supports this initiative.

In 2015 Kisima works on the following:

- Implementing activities on GBV in Kismayo
- Continue to operate a MCH (Mother and Child Healthcare) based in Alaney area. This has been going on for the last two years in close working relationship with the Ministry of Health
- Providing 180 girls and women educational programs, e.g. a tie and dye program
- Training district offices in Kismayo on human rights, advocacy, and raising awareness
- Training the IJA Regional Assembly on democracy, good governance, and peace-building – especially community peace-building
- Supporting 400 youth with vocational training so they can provide for their daily living

In Kismayo, Kisima works closely with the Ministry of Social Affairs. Kisima also supports youth in sports and has provided different teams with equipment and uniforms.

Kisima's role is to empower the community at large in Jubaland and other places where work is conducted.

The main ministries Kisima works with are:

- Ministry of Health because of the MCH
- Ministry of Social Affairs in the youth sector
- Ministry of Justice because of the GBV work. Kisima tries to establish and the MoJ with legal framework, e.g. by teaching women about the legal framework and how they should approach the justice system and report violence.

Positive outcomes of this have been that the government has asked Kisima to look at draft bills, such as the draft NGO law and Kisima has been invited to share its knowledge.

Lower Jubba Youth Union (LJYU)

The Lower Jubba Youth Union was started in September 2013 because youth wanted to take part in the advancement of their respective district. Their aim is to unite youth and to train them in an effort to keep them from joining Al Shabaab. LJYU is based in the Lower Jubba Region and Kismayo and works with other CSOs, e.g. organizations working with women and disabled groups and sports institutions.

The main focus is on training youth and raising awareness through brainstorming activities on how the communities can work together to become united. The youth are the most at-risk group to become engaged in crime, terrorism, or to become victims. LJYU also works on raising awareness regarding FGM, but the continual problem is funding and resources.

Socio-Economic Development and Human Rights Organization (SEDHURO)

SEDHURO was formed in 2002 and conducted most of its work in Gedo and Lower Jubba region. SEDHURO is involved in different sectors, such as food security, protection and human rights, and development. Their work on protection centers around training and raising awareness on GBV and other protection issues. Trainings have been held for elders, IDPs, local authorities,

youth, and women. SEDHURO has a good relationship with the government, as it would be difficult to do work in Jubaland otherwise. The government is aware of what SEDHURO is doing, but there is no political involvement.

Solidarity Group of Jubaland (SGJ)

SGJ was initially established in 1993, but due to the security and political situation at the time, activities were suspended. In 2010, SGJ was re-established and has since then, implemented many projects in Kismayo. For example, in 2012 when Al Shabaab was ousted from Kismayo, which enabled them to provide cash relief for 6 months to 1,200 households to address the high level of poverty at the time, since no regional government was to be found.

After 2012, SGJ has received funds from CHF, for which a WASH project was implemented in almost 70 schools in Kismayo, including madrasas and universities. Shallow wells were also constructed during this project.

Currently SGJ is conducting another WASH project, following an already finalized project. Their aim is to construct numerous shallow, motorized wells, and latrines in IDP camps.

SGJ is also implementing another project, which is a livelihood project to train villagers, two men and two women, from each village (a total of 20) on how to make soap.

SGJ is also providing legal aid activities, protection (special focus on children), and counselling services for women who are victims of trauma, rape, or any other kind of GBV. SGJ has lawyers who are active and who represent them, as well as trained professional counsellors that provide counseling services.

SGJ also works in Ras Kambooni (Lower Jubba region) where it carries out health related activities. With funding from Conflict Dynamics International (CDI), SGJ has been able to establish a peace committee in Kismayo and an early warning unit.

Somali Women's Solidarity Organisation (SWSO)

SWSO was formed in 2006 and works in Kismayo, Af Madow, and Dhobly with the aim to also start working in South Central Somalia in the future. For this reason SWSO is already registered both at the Federal level and the Regional level. The focus of the organization is on women's rights and SWSO is currently conducting workshops and different forms of capacity building for women in Jubaland, e.g. literacy of women, protection, capacity building of youth through sports, empowerment of women to participate in peace building, development, and politics. When SWSO conducts skills training for women, they also assist them with children, something that is often neglected when support is being given.

SWSO is part of the health, education, and protection sectors, which are all chaired by the government. Currently, SWSO is working with the Ministry of Health on the SGBV and GBV and other gender issues.

Media

Unfortunately, the assessment team had no opportunity to meet with media organizations located in Jubaland during the visit in Kismayo. According to CSOs the assessment team spoke with, there is media reporting from Jubaland, but the capacity was said to be limited. The assessment team suggests that renewed attempts be made to engage with media organizations during the next visit SSG will conduct to Jubaland, to get a more full picture to see how media operates. The assessment team is not aware of any NGOs/CSOs focused on media in Jubaland. According to some CSOs there are freelance journalists working for the bigger media organizations in Mogadishu and abroad. The assessment team has not been able to validate whether this is the case or not.

Government

Currently, the IJA government institutions are not in a place where they can meet the needs of the citizens. The ministries lack capacity, most of their staff are not yet even hired, some of the ministries don't even have Director Generals, only Ministers and their deputies. Even if they find the necessary resources, they don't have the capacity to do much at this point, even though some CSOs the assessment team met with, expressed they received assistance with access from ministries with which they engage. With very low capacity and manpower, the government often ends up being the beneficiary of CSOs support, rather than assisting themselves, according to some of the interviewed organizations.

The government has, thus far, not been able to take on a good coordinating role of CSOs and NGOs, something it needs further capacity building on how to do. At the moment, other priorities have taken over. The government will call CSOs to certain meetings and celebrations, and when aid is being distributed, but the real link between the IJA and civil society is still missing, according to many of the interviewees. However, most of the CSOs interviewed expressed a positive attitude toward the IJA involving them in the constitution-making process.

CSOs express they can then help the IJA in keeping citizens informed on policies and legislation, by creating civic education. Citizens have to be taught what these processes are and how they can be involved. The CSOs hopes that the IJA will be able to educate civil society together with CSOs, and allow CSOs to participate and be more involved. To do this, the government has to work together with the CSOs and they must thoroughly understand each other's role. The media can also take part in raising awareness. Some of the interviewees that did not express a close working relationship with the IJA, expressed to the assessment team that there is a lack of confidence between the government and the citizens, as well as a lack of public service delivery to the community. There needs to be more genuine participation by CSOs. According to the interviewees, the government is mostly involved in deskwork and does not do enough outreach, or conduct enough assessments out in the community. The main cause for this is that the government is weak, and because of security issues.

The interviewees could see a positive trend that more and more women are connected to CSOs and participate more than they have in the past. The women's groups continue to ask the government for a quota to be given to women. In the IJA Regional Assembly there were only 4

female MPs selected out of a total of 75 MPs selected recently. One of them has since then passed away, and was replaced by a man.

B. Findings

There is a divide between the civil society organizations in terms of capacity. Some of the CSOs the assessment team met with are relatively well organized, while some are start-ups with limited resources. Security concerns, lack of funding, and a lack of coordination are factors making it difficult for many of the CSOs to grow.

Based on the interviews conducted, the team could see some recurrent themes regarding challenges CSOs in Jubaland currently faces:

- Many of the CSOs are not strong nor are they united, some just exist in name
- Many CSOs don't have much access to information
- Most CSOs lack organizational structure
- There are many different CSOs working on the same topics
- There is a lack of unity and coordination
- Most CSOs are unable to lobby and advocate for change
- There are limited networking opportunities for CSOs
- Most CSOs lack funding and resources to meet the needs
- Insecurity and no access to areas where CSOs want to operate
- Lack of civic education
- Lack of accountability – lack of laws, systems, checks, and balances, etc
- Women are not supported enough– men lead most CSOs. For example, there are more organizations led by men that deal with gender issues such as FGM and SGBV – it is unlikely that survivors feel comfortable enough around men to disclose their ordeals
- Difficulties in creating coordination efforts among CSOs due to distrust between the CSOs
- Most CSOs have limited technical and financial knowledge
- Some CSOs need a better understanding of their role. Some CSOs believe that their role is to criticize the government, instead of finding ways how to solve issues

To mitigate the above challenges, the interviewees expressed the following needs for CSOs:

- CSOs need internal capacity building
- CSOs need support from the government and other stakeholders
- CSOs need to be trained on how to provide civic education
- CSOs need capacity building to write their own policies and procedures and organizational structures
- CSOs should be invited to take part in the decision making process
- CSOs need more funding to provide education and income generating activities for women, especially young women
- CSOs need orientation and raising awareness on good governance and peace building
- CSOs need to understand their role better and how they can effectively work with the government

- CSOs need to have effective umbrella organizations that can bring them all together and help them to work efficiently together
- CSOs need support to access public information
- CSOs need more support from the government and other stakeholders – especially women and youth
- CSOs need more resources – offices, equipment, venues etc. Often donors are just interested in supporting activities

Donor coordination and outreach to women and youth presented themselves as important issues for CSOs in Jubaland. They are both briefly discussed below:

Donor coordination. In Jubaland there have been several donors supporting CSOs, but very few of these donors have decision-making staff located in Jubaland according to the interviewees. With a more stable situation in Kismayo especially, donor coordination will be more and more important since there is a belief among the interviewed organizations that more funding from international donors will arrive. International donor-funded organizations that are currently working on activities in Jubaland are relatively few.

Target youth and women. As with the other previously assessed regions, youth and women are key target demographics in Jubaland. Youth are a disproportionately large segment of the population according to the CSOs the assessment interviewed, and is also the group with the highest risk of joining Al-Shabaab or criminal groups, due to lack of opportunities. Women are underrepresented in civil society and government, especially in leading positions.